

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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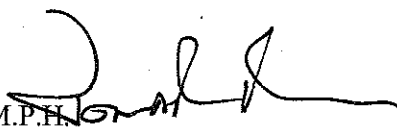


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March 2, 2012

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM:  Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENTS FOR THE PROVISION OF MATERNAL, INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME VISITING PROGRAM SERVICES**

This is to advise you that the Department of Public Health (DPH) intends to enter into sole source agreements with for approximately \$1,535,180, effective upon the date of Board approval through June 30, 2013, to implement the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program within at-risk communities in Los Angeles County. This funding will allow DPH to implement the MIECHV Program to provide effective coordination and delivery of critical health, development, early learning, child abuse and neglect prevention, and family support services to pregnant women, their newborns, young children, and families.

On March 23, 2010, the President signed into law the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (ACA). The ACA amended Title V of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 701 et seq.) by adding Section 511, which established the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program. On October 6, 2011, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Division (MCAH) notified the DPH Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Programs that DPH MCAH was awarded \$4,256,404 of MIECHV Program Title V funding to implement a Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) and a Healthy Families America (HFA) Program in Los Angeles County.

On December 12, 2011, DPH received a revised Letter of Allocation (LOA) from the CDPH in the amount of \$4,376,404. The revised LOA replaced and superseded the October 6, 2011 allocation and included funding to implement the MIECHV Program and added \$120,000 for the provision of regional NFP nurse training in Northern and Southern California by the NFP National Service Office. DPH is requesting authority to amend the current NFP agreement to add the additional NFP nurse training funds.

States are required by the federal government to utilize evidence-based home visiting programs in an effort to: promote improvements in maternal and prenatal health, infant health, and child health and development; increase school readiness; reduce in the incidence of child maltreatment; improve parenting related to child development outcomes; improve family socio-economic status; create better coordination of referrals to community resources and supports; and reduce in crime and domestic violence. To meet

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this federal requirement, the State selected two notable evidence-based home visiting models; NFP and HFA. The State conducted a competitive process to select at-risk communities within local counties that could implement NFP and HFA programs. Subsequently, the County of Los Angeles was awarded funding to build upon existing programs in at-risk communities that are already implementing NFP and HFA models. The proposed agencies are the only two agencies that implement the NFP and HFA models in Los Angeles County.

AVPH is a not-for-profit community-based organization for local public health planning and intervention in the Antelope Valley. AVPH's vision is that all children and families in the Antelope Valley will have optimal psychosocial, physical and environmental health. Their mission is to serve as a catalyst, build community capacity and enhance community health, wellness, and quality of life for residents in the Antelope Valley region. On January 17, 2012, the AVPH Executive Committee unanimously approved a motion to transition the HFA Program to AVPH. The AVPH is the only entity in the Antelope Valley implementing the HFA model to provide home visitation services.

LAUSD currently has a public health nurse (PHN) conducting NFP home visits and has a caseload of 25 teens. Under this new funding, LAUSD will expand its NFP Program to four nurses and provide home visitation services to additional 100 high-risk, first time adolescent moms who are living at or sometimes below the federal poverty level. The PHNs will provide comprehensive and coordinated services to improve prenatal health and the outcomes of pregnancy and improve the care provided to infants in an effort to improve children's health and development.

To allow time for your review and comments, we will not conduct negotiations until 10 business days from the date of this memorandum. Should you have any questions or would like more information, please contact me.

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c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors